

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY (DoDEA)

Global War on Terror (GWOT)/Regional War on Terror (RWOT)

Operations and Maintenance, Defense Wide Budget Activity 04, Administrative and Service-Wide Activities

Detail by Subactivity Group

- I. **Description of Operations Financed:** There are several Quality of Life (QOL) issues supporting the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) that require FY 2008 supplemental funding. This submission reflects the increased troops levels (approx 20,000) in Iraq.
- **Emergency Child Care Support:** Continues emergency and respite child care for service members (Active and Reserve Component) to enable families to manage lengthy separations and, in some cases, extensions to deployments.
 - **Family and Service Member Counseling/Reunion/Regional Guard/Reserve Support:** Continues counseling to support well-being during multiple deployments, extension of deployments and enable service members and families to sustain lengthy separations and high OPTEMPO.
 - **Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) RESET in Theater:** Continued funding to re-stock MWR support capability in theater due to the extensive use over a number of years as well as the increased number of deployed forces. This includes theaters in a box, computer stations, unit recreation kits, free weights and exercise equipment, library kits, and up-to-date books and magazines.
 - **Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GTMO) Quality of Life Support:** Continues to provide an immediate temporary housing solution (berthing barge) for detainee security forces at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GTMO) to alleviate arduous living conditions and a 200 percent population increase. Also provides modular recreation and fitness facilities and supporting equipment to serve this isolated population. Security forces are 45 minutes from the main side of the island without adequate transportation.
 - **Foreign Language Proficiency:** Continues pilot funding to support the President's National Security Language Initiative in strategic languages such as Farsi, Chinese and others, to encourage service members to learn these languages by using the Off Duty Voluntary Education/Tuition Assistance program. Service members are the diplomats and forward deployed emissaries of United States.

FY 2007
Title IX/Supplemental
208,222

FY 2008
GWOT Request
174,813

II. Financial Summary (\$ in Thousands):

A. Budget Activity 4 (Administrative and Service-Wide Activity) -- **Emergency Child Care Support**

1. 2.5 Other Personnel Support	60,000	61,320
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Narrative Justification: Child care is the number one quality of life issue for many service members and their families. Child care responsibilities weigh heavily on the remaining young spouse who must sustain families for periods often longer than a year. Funding provides for both emergency child care and respite care for families of deployed service members. The additional 20,000 service members deployed to Iraq increases the pool of children eligible for child care.

Impact if not funded: Lack of funding will increase the turmoil and unrest in families and will exacerbate the pressure that families are already experiencing because of the high operation tempo and the demands on the stay-behind spouse.

B. Budget Activity 4 (Administrative and Service-Wide Activity)

– Continued Family and Service Member Counseling/Reunion/Regional Guard/Reserve Support

1. 2.5 Other Personnel Support	85,000	61,320
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Narrative Justification: Families are in crisis with many units on their 5th or 6th deployment. Service members and families are struggling to manage the emotional roller coaster of multiple deployments and longer periods of separation. This funding provides counseling to support deployed forces and their families, particularly families in crisis. Counseling has been instrumental in helping families manage long separations. As a result of deployments, 25 percent of the active duty force has taken advantage of counseling services (FY 2006 Status of the Force Survey – Active Duty Members). Each month, counseling usage is increasing. In FY 2008, the Department expects 35 percent of the force will use counseling. Further, 39 percent of active duty members report concerns about family emotional issues while 48 percent report anxiety and depression (FY 2006 Status of the Force Survey – Active Duty Members).

Given the continued rate of deployments and the increased usage of counseling and support services, funding of these services is critical to stability of the active duty, Guard and Reserve members and military families. Counseling addresses financial issues as needed. Financial readiness is impacting service members' abilities to do their jobs while deployed and also has resulted in suspension of a significant number of security clearances due to indebtedness issues. Also, Congress directed the standup of six Joint Family Assistance Programs to increase the support for Guard and Reserve families. With the increased reliance on the Guard and Reserve, this support is critical to the stability of Reserve Component families.

Impact if not funded: The demand for counseling continues to grow. This proactive approach is enabling service members and their families to cope with the stress of this wartime environment and its aftermath. Lack of funding will negatively impact the readiness of the force and family well-being and will unravel family support for deployments.

**C. Budget Activity 4 (Administrative and Service-Wide Activity)
– Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) RESET in Theater**

1. 2.5 Other Personnel Support	13,000	15,000
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Narrative Justification: Service members identify the ability to communicate with family and friends, visual entertainment (books, electronic games, live performances and movies), and access to physical fitness equipment as their top Morale, Welfare and Recreation priorities in a deployed environment. Morale, Welfare and Recreation support is designed to help alleviate stress and provide relief from the wartime environment.

Impact if not funded: If not funded, morale in theater will be severely degraded and Morale, Welfare and Recreation equipment cannot be sustained.

D. Budget Activity 4 (Administrative and Service-Wide Activity) – Foreign Language Proficiency

1. 2.5 Other Personnel Support	11,900	12,173
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Narrative Justification: Provides funding to support the President's National Security Language Initiative, which will increase opportunities for foreign language education. Under this initiative, languages that increase strategic and national security interests will be funded through the Off Duty Voluntary Education/Tuition Assistance Program. Currently the Department does not have a sufficient number of Service members who have foreign language skills and

cultural awareness to effectively fight the Global War on Terror. To support the President's National Security Language Initiative, the Uniform Tuition Assistance Policy was expanded in December 2006 to permit Service members to take foreign languages courses during off-duty periods. This initiative will provide funding for 8,000 Service members to take two language courses per year in or to gain or maintain language proficiency.

Impact if not funded: There will be deficiencies in foreign language proficiency that will prevent effective defense of national security interests.

E. Budget Activity 4 (Administrative and Service-Wide Activity) – Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Quality of Life (QOL)

1.	3.7 Other Services/Miscellaneous Contracts	38,322	25,000
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Narrative Justification: Living conditions at the very isolated Joint Task Force detention facility are deplorable with one latrine, no showers, mold and air quality issues, limited laundry facilities, unacceptable phone/internet services, and few or no recreation or fitness facilities. Funding will provide for sustainment of a berthing barge that will provide a clean, suitable place to live during construction and/or renovation of existing living quarters with adequate plumbing, showers, etc. The funding will also provide for the sustainment of a modular physical fitness/athletic facilities for indoor and outdoor activities; a modular recreation center with computer access; portable recreation equipment and small recreational boats for off-duty recreation of the security forces.

Impact if not funded: If not funded, poor living and working conditions will adversely impact Service members' ability to carry out the detainee security force mission in life threatening situations.

Funding Totals		208,222	174,813
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